



Proclamation

Presented to

The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)–Hawaii Chapter

WHEREAS, the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)-Hawaii Chapter educates the public about Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) being a progressive disorder that destroys nerve cells that control voluntary muscle movement and causes paralysis; and people with ALS typically live three to five years after diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)-Hawaii Chapter provides information that each day, an estimated 15 people in the United States are diagnosed with this illness, for which there is no known cause or cure; and there are approximately 30,000 Americans currently living with ALS; and

WHEREAS, the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)-Hawaii Chapter informs us that in the advanced stages, ALS care can cost up to \$200,000 per year, depleting the financial resources of patients and relatives; and

WHEREAS, the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)-Hawaii Chapter is dedicated to raising awareness and funding to treat ALS having funded \$23.7 million in 2010, which surpasses the combined efforts of all other nongovernmental health agencies dedicated to ALS;

WHEREAS, the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)-Hawaii Chapter will join other MDA Chapters nationwide in May, 2011 to recognize the 20th Anniversary of ALS Awareness of the 1992 declaration by the U.S. Congress to help spotlight the tremendous challenges being faced by individuals living with ALS, as well as the importance of speeding worldwide research seeking treatments and cures for the fatal disease;

THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i do hereby proclaim May, 2011 as

“ALS AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in expressing our deepest appreciation to the **Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)-Hawaii Chapter** for their outstanding work in our communities, and urge all citizens to become educated about ALS and lend their aid to combating the disease.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this sixth of May, 2011.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i